

Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR COMMERCIAL COMMISSION AND EXPERTS
MEETINGS

1. SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATIVE MKRTUMOV CALLED ON
TREASURY UNDER SECRETARY SOLOMON ON APRIL 6 TO DISCUSS
THE US PROPOSAL FOR MEETINGS IN MAY OF THE US-USSR
COMMERCIAL COMMISSION AND THE COMMISSION'S WORKING
GROUP OF EXPERTS. MKRTUMOV STATED THAT BEFORE PATOLICHEV
CAN OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM HIS GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT THE
INVITATION HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A US PROPOSAL FOR AN
AGENDA FOR THE COMMISSION MEETING. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE
AN AGENDA FOR THE EXPERTS MEETING.

2. SOLOMON TOLD MKRTUMOV THAT WE EXPECT THIS COMMISSION
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MEETING WILL COVER THE SAME GENERAL TOPICS AS THE FIFTH
SESSION AND THAT WE WOULD PROVIDE A PROPOSED AGENDA
SHORTLY. HE SAID THAT WE WOULD PROPOSE AN AGENDA FOR
THE EXPERTS MEETING AS SOON AS WE HAVE ONE DEVELOPED.

3. SOLOMON ALSO TOLD MKRTUMOV THAT THE US SIDE DOES NOT
EXPECT TO BE PREPARED TO GIVE THE SOVIETS A POSITION OR

STRATEGY ON JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT BY THE TIME OF THE

COMMISSION MEETING. HE INDICATED THAT SUCH A POSITION IS STILL BEING DEVELOPED WITHIN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AND WOULD NOT BE COMPLETED BY THAT TIME. HE SAID THE USG WANTED TO HAVE THE MEETING AS A SIGN OF OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN US-SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND TO GIVE MEMBERS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THEIR SOVIET COUNTERPARTS.

4. MKRTUMOV APPEARED FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE IDEA OF HAVING A MEETING AND STATED THAT PATOLICHEV AND SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL COULD EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE JACKSON-VANIK ISSUE AT THE TIME OF THE COMMISSION MEETING.

5. MKRTUMOV STATED THAT PATOLICHEV WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE THE WEEK OF MAY 16 AND SUGGESTED THE WEEK OF MAY 23 AS AN ALTERNATIVE. SOLOMON STATED THAT WE WOULD CHECK TO SEE IF SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL AND SECRETARY KREPS WOULD BE AVAILABLE DURING THAT WEEK AND GET BACK TO MKRTUMOV SHORTLY.

6. THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED AGENDA WILL BE GIVEN TO MKRTUMOV ON APRIL 7:

I. STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR.

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II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LONG TERM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR TO FACILITATE ECONOMIC INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DATED JUNE 29, 1974; THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE EXPERTS WORKING GROUP.

III. MAJOR PROJECTS AND FINANCING.

IV. BUSINESS FACILITATION.

V. OTHER.

VANCE

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